

METHOD FOR PROVIDING MEDIA COMMUNICATION ACROSS FIREWALLS

ABSTRACT

5 The present invention supports a method for transmitting informa-
tion packets across network firewalls. A trusted entity is provisioned with
an address designation for a pinhole through the firewall during setup of a
communication session between two communication devices. This pin-
hole address is used throughout the communication session between the
10 two communication devices to transmit information packets onto and out
of the communication network.

Information packets addressed to the communication device inside
the firewall are received by the trusted entity, which replaces address
header information in the information packet with the address for the pin-
15 hole. The information packet is routed to the pinhole where it passes onto
the network for routing to the communication device inside the firewall.
Information packets transmitted from the network are also routed to the
trusted entity for routing toward the communication device outside the
firewall.